The Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund for Medical Research
Board of Scientific Advisers

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Office of Director Yale University School of Medicine 333 Cedar Street New Haven 11, Connecticut

May 15, 1947

Dr. Aura E. Severinghaus, Associate Dean College of Physicians and Surgeons 630 West 168th Street New York 32. New York

Dear Doctor Severinghaus:

Mr. Joshua Lederberg, a medical student at the College of Physicians and Surgeons on leave of absence until September, 1947, holds a fellowship from this Fund for research in the Department of Botany, Yale University. His appointment terminates September 6, 1947. He has informed us that he plans to return to the College of Physicians and Surgeons this fall to resume his place in the third year class. In view of his intention to spend nearly one-third of his time in continuing his investigations on the genetics of bacteria, in association with Dr. Francis J. Ryan in the Department of Zoology of Columbia University, in addition to his clinical studies as a third year medical student, and in view of his financial need, Mr. Lederberg has applied to us for a continuation of his research fellowship at the present stipend of \$1,800. We understand from Mr. Lederberg that because of several factors, including his marriage during the past year, he has no prospects for aid from the scholarship and loan funds of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, but that he will be eligible for G. I. educational benefits of \$500 for tuition and \$90 per month living allowance.

The request Mr. Lederberg has made is quite unusual. We are preparing, however, to submit it to our Board of Scientific Advisers for consideration at its meeting on May 24. Before we do this, we would like to obtain from you a statement that such an arrangement if made would be approved by the College of Physicians and Surgeons. We would be obliged if you would comment also on the probability that Mr. Lederberg could wisely accomplish what he proposes and on the financial assistance that might be available to him through scholarship and loan funds at the College of Physicians and Surgeons. We will be greatly obliged to you for information and advice that will be of assistance to us in considering Mr. Lederberg's request.

Sincerely yours

R. G. Mesder